Beseeching God and you to pardon me.
*GREY.* Never did faithful subject more rejoice
At the discovery of most dangerous treason,
Than I do at this hour joy o'er myself,
Prevented from a damned enterprise :
My fault[5], but not my body, pardon, sovereign.
*K. HEN.* God quit you in his mercy!
Hear your sentence.
You have conspired against our royal person,
Join'd with an enemy proclaimed[6], and from his coffers
Received the golden earnest of our death :
Wherein you would have sold your king to slaughter,
His princes and his peers to servitude,
His subjects to oppression and contempt,
And his whole kingdom into desolation.
Touching our person, seek we no revenge ;
But we our kingdom's safety must so tender,
Whose ruin you three sought, that to her laws
We do deliver you. Get you therefore hence[7],
Poor miserable wretches, to your death:
The taste whereof, God, of his mercy, give you

that he alludes to, was the taking off Henry, to make room for his brother-in-law. See the preceding note. MALONE.

[5] My fault, &c.] One of the conspirators against Queen Elizabeth, I think Parry, concludes his letter to her with these words : " *a culpa*, but not *a pœna*, absolve me, most dear lady!" This letter was much read at that time, [1585,] and our author doubtless copied it.

This whole scene was much enlarged and improved after the first edition: the particular insertions in it would be tedious to mention, and tedious without much use. JOHNSON.

The words of Parry's letter are, " Discharge me *a culpâ*, but not *a pœna*, good ladie." REED.

[6] — proclaimed,] Mr. Ritson recommends the omission of this word, which deforms the measure. STEEVENS.

[7] — Get you therefore hence,] So, in Holinshed : " — Get

ve hence therefore, ye poor miserable wretches, to the receiving of
your just reward ; wherein God's majesty give you grace/' &c.

STEEVENS.